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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/694,483	10/27/2003	Chunhong Hou	169.12-0577	4274

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THE KINNEY & LANGE BUILDING
312 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55415-1002

EXAMINER

CHEN, TIANJIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2627

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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16/694483

EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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20070316

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents

For correcting a typo, a Supplemental Detailed Action is attached.

Chen Tianjie
TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

SUPPLEMENTAL DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submissions filed on 07/20/2006 and 08/15/2006 have been entered.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

- Independent claims 1 and 16 are found allowable, the withdrawn claims 3, 5, 8-13, 17-21, 26, and ~~27~~ are rejoined.

Reasons for Allowance

3. Finally claims 1-26 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- With regard to independent claims 1 and 16, as the closest reference on record, the Applicant Admitted Prior Art discloses a conventional magnetoresistive sensor comprising: a tri-layer reader stack including a first ferromagnetic layer, a second ferromagnetic layer, and a magnetoresistive layer positioned therebetween; and biasing means positioned with respect to the tri-layer reader

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stack and proximate to a surface of the magnetoresistive sensor for biasing a magnetization of the first ferromagnetic layer substantially orthogonal to a magnetization of the second ferromagnetic layer, **but fails to show** that the surface is a medium confronting surface.

- Applicant asserts in his invention a biasing layer is positioned on a top of the tri-layer reader stack separated from the tri-layer reader stack by a nonmagnetic spacer layer and biasing field is induced on the entire tri-layer reader stack (Specification, p. 3).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER